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DE RUEHRO #0545 1211134 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 301134Z APR 08 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0259 INFO RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 1742 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1478 RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY 0284 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 2406 RUEHSJ/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY 0248 RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 0782 RUEHSB/AMEMBASSY HARARE PRIORITY 0224 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0533 RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 0761 RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 6382 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0874

CONFIDENTIAL ROME 000545

SIPDIS

IO/UNP FOR GOLDENBERG AF/S FOR HILL IO/RHS FOR OSTERMEIER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/30/2018
TAGS: PREL UNSC XA ZI AU IT

SUBJECT: RAISING ZIMBABWE AT THE UN

REF: A. STATE 44297 ¶B. STATE 44905

Classified By: A/DepPolCouns Gabriel Escobar

(C) Poloff delivered ref A and B points to MFA UN Office Director Natalia Quintavalle April 28 and 29, respectively, and urged Italy to support a formal UNSC meeting on Zimbabwe and make strong a statements of concern about the situation in Zimbabwe during the informal consultations on April 29. Quintavalle said that on Africa matters Italy was primarily focused on Sudan and the Horn of Africa, and generally deferred to the EU common position on Zimbabwe. She said Italy remained hopeful that the crisis in Zimbabwe could be resolved through the intercession of regional institutions like the Southern African Development Community and the African Union, but if no satisfactory progress could be made through those fora, Italy would support an expanded UNSC role. SPOGLI